



461 Illinois Teachers Earn National Board Certification in 2011 Total Illinois NBCTs reaches 5,153

The teacher quality movement in Illinois has made an impressive gain. 461 Illinois teachers achieved National Board Certification in 2011-bringing the total number of Illinois' top teachers to 5,153.

National Board Certification is achieved through a rigorous, performance-based assessment of a teacher's pedagogical skills and content knowledge. The certification takes one to three years to complete.

While state licensing systems set the basic requirements to teach in each state, National Board Certified Teachers have demonstrated advanced teaching knowledge, skills and practices. NBPTS certification identifies qualified teachers as leaders in their field, much like the certifications earned by experts in law and medicine. Completion of NBPTS's National Board Certification process signifies that the certificated teachers have developed and demonstrated the skills required of a true education professional.

"As the nation focuses on building the strongest possible teaching workforce, National Board Certification is the gold standard in affirming excellence in the classroom," said Ron Thorpe, NBPTS president and CEO. "These highly qualified teachers are true 'nation builders,' and are the educators who are best positioned to lead the ground-up movement our schools need to reach their potential."

A recent comprehensive study by the nonpartisan National Research Council found that students taught by board certified teachers make higher gains on achievement tests than students taught by other teachers. In fact, improved student learning and achievement are two key benefits of the programs and services provided through NBPTS.

NBPTS is also impacting education nationwide through additional professional development programs for school leaders, research and development on education policy and practices and through strategic partnerships with like-minded organizations which are also seeking to improve America's schools.

NBCTs embody what parents want for their kids, and these accomplished educators are well positioned to make a difference in their schools and communities.

Watch the [ceremony at the White House](#) honoring National Board Certified Teachers and welcoming the NBCT class of 2011.

For more information, please visit www.growgreatschools.org.

[Illinois Newly Certified NBCTs](#)

[2011 Statistics for Illinois](#)

[Illinois Ranks 3rd for Newly Certified NBCTs](#)

[Illinois Ranks 6th for Total NBCTs](#)

[National Board Certified Teachers by State](#)

[All Illinois NBCTs by Counties](#)

[All Illinois NBCTs by Districts](#)

[All Illinois NBCTs by Schools](#)

[Top 50 Alma Maters for the 2011 Class of NBCTs](#)

About NBPTS

NBPTS is the definitive source of the highest standards and best practices for accomplished teaching, leading and learning. For a quarter century, we've set the bar for what it means to be a great teacher, and have provided the standards and framework needed to achieve that mark of distinction: the National Board Certified Teacher. Our reinvigorated mission includes an array of programs, including our principal certification currently being piloted nationwide, to support continuous school improvement. At a time when the nation's emphasis on educational improvement is at an all-time high, NBPTS is uniquely positioned to play a broad role in the transformation of America's schools.